

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 H-02 SP-02 EB-07 SS-15 NSC-05

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-03 DODE-00 PRS-01 /065 W

----- 070184

R 251402Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3625

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 3869

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, YO, UN

SUBJECT: AMBASSDAOR'S CALL ON PRIME MINISTER BIJEDIC

REF: A. STATE 170841 B. BELGRADE 3774

1. DURING COURTESY CALL JULY 24 ON PRIME MINISTER BIJEDIC, WHICH CONCENTRATED LARGELY ON YUGOSLAV ECONOMY, AMBASSADOR RAISED YUGOSLAVIA'S POLICIES IN MULTILATERAL FORA, PARTICULARLY FORTHCOMING UN 7TH SPECIAL SESSION AND 30TH SESSION UNGA. HE CONTRASTED HIGHLY FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENT OUR BILATERALS, WITH STRAINS AND TENSIONS THAT SOMETIME ARISE BETWEEN US IN MULTILATERAL ARENAS. BIJEDIC SAID VERY EXPLICITLY AND REPEATED AGAIN LATER IN CONVERSATION THAT WHILE THERE ARE SOME LDC'S WHICH SEEK SHARPEN WORLD TENSIONS, MAJORITY OF NON-ALIGNED FAVOR DIALOGUE WITH DC'S AND ARE AGAINST CONFRONTATION. YUGOSLAVIA IN LATTER GROUP AND ANXIOUS TO SEE THAT GENUINE RESULTS COME FROM FORTHCOMING UN SESSIONS AND THAT CONFRONTATION AVOIDED. YUGOSLAVIA INTENDS WORK TOWARDS THESE ENDS. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT DIALOGUE IMPLIES THAT BOTH SIDES WILL LISTEN TO EACH OTHER'S VIEWPOINTS.

2. AMBASSADOR CALLED BIJEDIC'S ATTENTION TO SECRETARY'S MILWAUKEE SPEECH AND ADDED THAT WE WERE CONCERNED OVER RECENT ACTIONS BY OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH SUGGESTED UNCONSTITUTIONAL EXPULSION OR SUSPENSION OF ISRAEL FROM UNGA. BUJEDIC RESPONDED THAT WHILE THE MOSLEM COUNTRIES HAD RECENTLY CALLED FOR SUCH ACTION, NOT ALL
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OF THE COUNTRIES PRESENT AT THAT MEETING AGREED. YUGOSLAVIA

CERTAINLY DID NOT. IT OPPOSED EXPULSION OF ISRAEL FROM UN SYSTEM. HOWEVER, HE ADDED, ISRAEL CANNOT SIMPLY HAVE ITS OWN WAY. IT MUST REALIZE THAT IT CANNOT EXPECT TO HOLD OTHER PEOPLES' TERRITORIES INDEFINITELY, WITHOUT CONSEQUENCES FOR ITS OWN SECURITY. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT NON-ALIGNED WANT A ROLE IN MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT.

3. COMMENT: WE PARTICULARLY STRUCK BY CONTRAST IN TONE BETWEEN BIJEDIC'S PRIVATE ASSURANCES AND MINIC STATEMENT (REFTEL B). THE ONE CONSTANT THEME IN ALL DISCUSSIONS WITH SENIOR OFFICIALS OVER THE LAST TWO MONTHS CONCERNING THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION IS THE GOY DESIRE FOR CONCRETE RESULTS, NOT RHETORICAL CONFRONTATION FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES. OF COURSE THEIR DESIRE FOR CONCRETE RESULTS DOES NOT NECESSARILY AVOID CONFRONTATION IF THEIR MINIMUM GOALS ARE UNACCEPTABLE TO US.
SILBERMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, AMBASSADORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BELGRA03869
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750258-0219
From: BELGRADE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750719/aaaaaqoj.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 170841, 75 BELGRADE 3774
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <10 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMBASSDAOR'S CALL ON PRIME MINISTER BIJEDIC
TAGS: PFOR, YO, UN, (BIJEDIC, DZEMAL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006